

IN REPLY REFER TO:
Executive Offices,
Post Office Box 59-2276,
Miami, Florida. 33159

March 23 , 1965

Mr. Harmer B. Cole,
177 North River Drive,
Pennsville, New Jersey, 08070

Dear Mr. Cole:

My mother has referred your recent letter to me for
answer.

At the present time, I do not wish to have any part
of my collection viewed by anyone. If at a later date I change my
mind, I shall let you know.

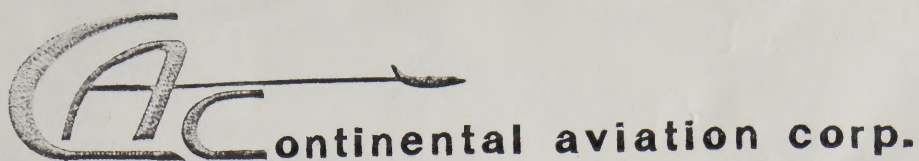
Perhaps you could possibly elaborate on what you mean
by "There seems to be many figures on the coin (Cohen specimen) which
do not belong there." In the near future I hope to have time to look
over my two specimens and after hearing from you will let you know my
thoughts.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Willis H. du Pont', written in dark ink.

Willis H. du Pont

WHduP:nlj



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do not belong there." In the near future I hope to have time to look
over my two specimens and after hearing from you will let you know my
thoughts.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Willis H. du Pont'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent 'W' and 'H'.

Willis H. du Pont

WHduP:nlj

February 2, 1966

Mr. Kenneth Bressett

Eric P. Newman

Dear Ken:

Humor in numismatics is rare enough so that I can share a chuckle with you.

In the February 1966 Whitman Numismatic Journal, the article entitled "The Mint Manual", by E. Oelsner, contains a statement that "Eric Newman, Ken Bressett, Walter Breen and myself went to work on this mysterious coin and published its complete history in THE FANTASTIC 1804 DOLLAR". The mysterious coin referred to, of course, was the 1804 dollar.

When I read this passage it shocked me to realize that I had never heard of Mr. E. Oelsner as having rendered assistance on the book and that this must be nom de plume for Lynn Glaser. It was bad enough to have Lynn Glaser endeavor to take credit for publishing the book and I resent that on your behalf as well as my own.

I do think, however, that Mr. E. Oelsner is entitled to the honor for working on "The Fantastic 1804 Dollar" with the same degree of credibility as the identification of the author. *of "The Fantastic 1804 Dollar"*

The name "Oelsner" is probably misspelled and should have been spelled "Ulcer".

Cordially,

EPN/atb

St George's Hotel

COPY

Langham Place London W1 Langham 0111

8 July 1966

Kunst Historische Museum
Vienna, Austria.

Gentlemen:

The British Museum Dept of Coins and Medals suggested I write you in an effort to locate a copy of a coin sale catalogue issued by Adolph Weyl of Berlin for Oct. 13, 1884.

There is no copy I can find in United States and I hope you have a copy or can tell me where I might check further.

Sincerely

Eric P. Newman

6450 Cecil Ave

St Louis Mo 63105

U.S.A.

P.S. I am interested in a listing for the
1804 U.S. Dollar

BUNDESSAMMLUNG VON MEDAILLEN,
MÜNZEN UND GELDZEICHEN

BURGRING 5

A-1010 Wien 1

Zl. 211/MK/1966

Wien, am 12. Juli 1966

Herrn
Eric P. Newman
6450 Ceceil Ave
St. Louis

Missouri 63105 U S A

Sehr geehrter Herr!

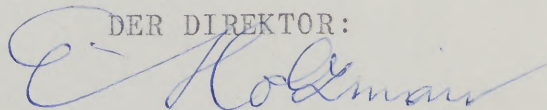
Auf Ihre Anfrage vom 8. Juli kann ich Ihnen erfreulicherweise mitteilen, daß wir den gesuchten Auktionskatalog besitzen. Unter der Nummer 159 ist der von Ihnen erwähnte Dollar 1804 verzeichnet. Dabei ist eine Anmerkung in Petit:

"Genau mit der Abbildung der im Jahre 1875 zu New-York versteigerten Nr. 535 der Collection Cohen übereinstimmend; Randschrift jedoch auf vorliegendem Exemplar nur schwach ausgeprägt."

Abbildungen sind im Katalog überhaupt keine beigegeben.

Ich hoffe, Ihnen damit gedient zu haben, und empfehle nichtbestens

DER DIREKTOR:



(Univ.-Prof. Dr. Eduard Holzmann)

12 July 1966

State Collection of Medals,
Money and Tokens
Burgring 5
Vienna

Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105
U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

As to your inquiry of July 8 I can happily notify you that we possess the sought-after auction catalog. Under No. 159 is listed the 1804 Dollar which was mentioned by you. Next to it is a comment in small print:

as No. 535 of the Cohen Collection
corresponds exactly to the illustration of
the one which was auctioned in 1875 in
New York; edge legend however is only
weakly impressed on the foregoing example."

No illustrations at all have been added in the catalog.

I hope to have served you herewith, and send my best regards.

The Director

Prof. Eduard Holzmair

State Collection of Medals,
Money and Tokens
Burgring 5
Vienna

Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105
U.S.A.

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No illustrations at all have been added in the catalog.

I hope to have served you herewith, and send my best regards.

The Director

Prof. Eduard Holzmair

9 August, 1966

Dr. Eduard Holzmair
Bundessammlung Von Medaillen
Munzen und Geldzeichen
Burgring 5
A-1010, Wien 1, Austria

Dear Dr. Holzmair:

Thank you very much for your letter of 12 July, 1966 describing the United States 1804 Dollar listing in the Adolph Weyl Sale of October 13, 1884.

Would it be possible for you to mail to me a photocopy of the page of the catalog giving the listing. I am interested in whether there are any other American coins in the group and the exact description of the 1804 Dollar.

You state that there were no photographs or illustrations in the catalog and I wonder whether it was customary for pictures to be sent to a selected few on request or to those who paid an extra fee for that service. There is an American dealer who, in 1884, said that he saw a picture from the catalog and stated that the picture looked like the picture of a restrike.

I will appreciate your continued cooperation and hope that I am not burdening you too much with this request.

If there is anything which I can do for you in America at any time please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105
U.S.A.

cc: Mr. Kenneth Bressett

EPN/atb

Bressett

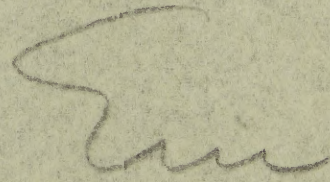
Newman

Dear Co Author:

If you want a bit more for the 1804 Dollar in the Whitman's monthly we can order a photograph of the picture which was published in the Adolph Weyl catalog which after many yearss searching in Europe I located in the Vienna Museum. It would be interesting to see if it were the picture of the coin it was supposed to be, in view of all the crazy claims about it. I do not know how much the picture will cost but can your outfit afford it? Let me know.

Enclosed is my last letter from them.

Regards ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be 'Newman', written in dark ink.

BUNDESSAMMLUNG VON MEDAILLEN,
MÜNZEN UND GELDZEICHEN

WIEN, I., BURGRING 5
Zl. 211/MK/1966 - 2

Wien, am 17. August 1966

Herrn

Eric P. Newman

6450 Cecil Avenue

St. Louis

Missouri 63105 U S A

Sehr geehrter Herr!

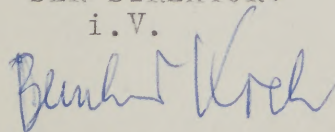
Bezugnehmend auf Ihr wertees Schreiben vom 9. August kann ich Ihnen nun folgendes Erfreuliches mitteilen.

Bei nochmaliger genauester Durchsicht des Kataloges hat sich an abgelegener Stelle doch ein Photo des US-Dollars 1804 gefunden. Der Katalogteil enthält auf 9 Seiten nordamerikanische Münzen. USA-Münzen, Medaillen, etc. sind auf 7 Seiten angeführt. Darf ich Sie nun fragen, ob Sie nun eine Photokopie sämtlicher Seiten mit US-Münzen wollen oder ob Ihnen genügt, wie ich gegenwärtig annehme, ein Photo des bewußten Dollars. Die Münzen sind - wie ich sehe - meist bei Fonrobert verzeichnet.

Ich hoffe, Ihnen vorläufig gedient zu haben, und erwarte nun die Bekanntgabe Ihres endgültigen Wunsches.

Mit dem Ausdruck der vorzüglichen Hochachtung zeichnet

DER DIREKTOR:
i.V.



(Dr. Bernhard Koch)

Wien, am 17. August 1966

Very dear Sir
Sehr geehrter Herr!

Referring to your esteemed favor of Aug. 9 I can only tell
Bezugnehmend auf Ihr wertres Schreiben vom 9. August kann ich Ihnen
you the following satisfaction
nun folgendes Erfreuliches mitteilen.

Upon a second closer ^{personal} of the catalog I have found
Bei nochmaliger genauester Durchsicht des Kataloges hat sich an
in a remote place after all a photo of the 1804 U. S. Dollar.
abgelegener Stelle doch ein Photo des US-Dollars 1804 gefunden.

The section of the catalog on page 9 ^{includes} ~~supports~~ North American ~~mint~~ coins.
Der Katalogteil enthält auf 9 Seiten nordamerikanische Münzen.

USA coins, medallions, etc., are cited on page 7. May
USa-Münzen, Medaillen, etc. sind auf 7 Seiten angeführt. Darf

I ask you now if you now want a photocopy of all pages with
ich Sie nun fragen, ob Sie nun eine Photokopie sämtlicher Seiten

U. S. coins or if a photo of the known Dollar satisfies
mit US-Münzen wollen oder ob Ihnen genügt, wie ich gegenwärtig
you, as I presently assume. The coins are, as
annehme, ein Photo des bewußten Dollars. Die Münzen sind - wie

I see, mostly noted by Fonrobert
ich sehe - meist ~~bei~~ ~~bei~~ bei Fonrobert verzeichnet.

I hope to have served you for the present + anticipate now the
Ich hoffe, Ihnen vorläufig gedient zu haben, und erwarte nun die

familiar gift of your final wishes
Bekanntgabe Ihres endgültigen Wunsches.

with the expression Signed with the expression Yours respectfully
Mit dem Ausdruck der vorzüglichen Hochachtung zeichnet
Yours respectfully

Der Direktor:

i.V.

(Dr. Bernhard Koch)

Bundessammlung von Medaillen,
Münzen und Geldzeichen
Wien, I., Burgring 5
Zl. 211/MK/1966 - 2

Wien, am 17. August 1966

Very dear Sir,

Referring to your esteemed favor of August 9, I can only tell you the following to your satisfaction.

Upon a second closer perusal of the catalog, I have found in a remote place after all a photo of the 1804 U. S. Dollar. The section of the catalog on page 9 supports North American coins. U.S.A. coins, medallions, etc., are cited on page 7. May I ask you now if you now want a photo copy of all pages with U.S. coins or if a photo of the known Dollar satisfies you, as I presently assume. The coins are, as I see, mostly noted by Fonrobert.

I hope to have served you for the present and anticipate now the familiar gift of your final wishes.

Signed with the expression Yours respectfully

The Director

Dr. Bernhard Koch

27 September, 1966

Dr. Bernhard Koch, Director
Bundessammlung Von Medaillen
Munzen Und Geldzeichen
Burgring 5, Vienna, Austria

My Dear Dr. Koch:

I was very pleased that you were able to find the photograph of the 1804 Dollar in the Adolph Weyl Catalogue of 1884.

We would like to publish a picture of it in America and would appreciate it if you have it photographed on a negative approximately 9cm. X 12 cm., or some other convenient large size. If both sides are illustrated we would like a photograph of each side.

It would be well to have a photocopy of the page in the catalogue describing the coin.

Naturally, we will be glad to remit the cost for this service.

When the data is published, we will acknowledge the cooperation of your museum and we look forward to hearing from you when the work has been completed.

Cordially yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY
P.O.Box 14020
St.Louis, Missouri 63178 U.S.A.

P.S. If you send the pictures by air mail, please include that cost.

EPN/atb

BUNDESSAMMLUNG VON MEDAILLEN,
MÜNZEN UND GELDZEICHEN

WIEN, I., BURGRING 5
Zl. 211/LK/1966 - m

Wien, am 6. Oktober 1966

Herrn

Eric P. Newman
Numismatic Education Society
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis
Missouri 63178

Sehr geehrter Herr!

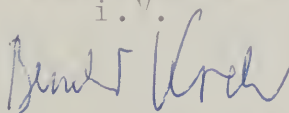
Wir können heute Ihrem Wunsch nachkommen und übersenden Ihnen einen Negativfilm über die Abbildung des Dollars bzw. über die Stelle, an der dieser beschrieben ist. Sie können sich dadurch ein Photo in der gewünschten Größe anfertigen lassen. Außerdem lege ich diesem Schreiben einen Abzug der Aufnahme der Münze bei.

Wollen Sie uns als Spesenvergütung einschließlich Portogebühr für Flugpost 15 internationale Postantwortscheine zusenden.

Wir hoffen, Ihnen damit gedient zu haben, und zeichnen mit dem Ausdrucke der vorzüglichen Hochachtung

DER DIREKTOR:

i. V.



(Dr. Bernhard Koch)

Herrn

Eric P. Newman
Numismatic Education Society
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis
Missouri 63178

Very dear Sir
Sehr geehrter Herr!

We can comply with your wishes today and send you
Wir können heute Ihren Wunsch nach einem und überreichen Ihnen
a film negative above the illustration of the Dollar respectively, above the
einen Negativfilm über die Abbildung des Dollars bzw. über die
place on which this is written. You can thereby
Stelle, an der dieser Beschriftung ist. Sie können sich dadurch
be permitted to make a photo in the desired size. Moreover
ein Photo in der gewünschten Größe anfertigen lassen. Außerdem
I place a print of the photograph of the money near the writing.
legentlich diesem Schreiben eine Abdruck der Aufnahme der Münze
attach to this note a print of the photograph of the money.
bei.

Do you want us to send as reimbursement of expenses, including postage
wollen Sie uns als Spesenvergütung, einschließlich Postgebühr
for airmail, 15 international mail reply coupons?
für Flugpost 15 internationale Postantwortscheine zusenden.

We hope to have served you herewith and sign with the
Wir hoffen, Ihnen damit genügen zu können, und zeichnen mit dem
expression, yours respectfully
Ausdrucke der vorzüglichen Hochachtung

The Director
DER DIREKTOR:
i. V.

Bernhard Koch
(Dr. Bernhard Koch)

beilegen 10
beziehungsweise - 40
nachkommen - 20
übersenden - 20
beschreiben - 10
dadurch - 10
lassen, ließ, gelassen, läßt

10 10 10 10 10

die Größe 20
anfertigen 20
außerdem - 10

der Abzug - proof-sheet, 10

die Aufnahme - 10

die Spesenvergütung - 10

einschließlich 10
das Porto - 10
die Gebühr 20
die Flugpost 10
der Antwortschein 10
coupon de réponse
international

zusenden 10

vorzüglich 10

die Hochachtung 10

mit vorzüglicher Hochachtung

10 10 10 10

October 11, 1966

Mr. Kenneth Bressett

Eric P. Newman

Dear Ken:

I am enclosing the film strip I received from Austria and would appreciate it if you will have enlargements made from it and send me a set; naturally, keep a set for yourself.

I am also sending you a copy of his recent letter, translated, in which he wants 15 International Reply coupons. It will save me a lot of time and trouble if you will obtain these so that I don't have to.

We can then study the picture of the coin and see what conclusions can be drawn.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

50th Anniversary of

Whitman®

WHITMAN
PUBLISHING
COMPANY
Racine, Wisconsin 53404

October 13, 1966

Mr. Eric P. Newman
P.O.Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Mr. Newman:

We have received your letter enclosing the film strip and copy of letter from Dr. Koch. Mr. Bressett is presently attending the NENA Convention and will receive these when he returns next week.

Sincerely,

WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

Kay Andreasen

Kay Andreasen
Secretary to Mr. Bressett

ca

October 25, 1966

Dr. Bernard Koch, Director
Bundessammlung Von Medaillen
Munzen Und Geldzeichen
Burgring 5, Vienna, Austria

My dear Dr. Koch:

Thank you, very much, for the film strip and the information with respect to the 1804 dollar.

In accordance with your request I am enclosing herewith 15 International Postal Reply coupons and hope this will reimburse you for the trouble you went to on my behalf. As soon as the article is published with this information your museum will be given appropriate credit for its helpfulness.

I hope I will have the opportunity of seeing you at the International Numismatic Congress, in Copenhagen, in August, 1967. My wife and I plan to be present.

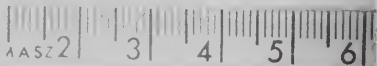
If there is anything we can do for you at any time, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

Nachmittagen punktu
unter Leitung des Oben



Berlin 18
ADOLPH V

nen von 4 bis 9 Uhr

ngenannten stattfindet.



1884.

WEYL,

150. Kupfer-Cent 1801. Fonrobert 447. E¹
151. Silber-Dollar 1802 (auf 1801). Fonrobert 450. E¹
152. Kupfer-Cent 1802. Fonrobert 452. E¹ & E¹⁻² (2 Ver.)
153. Kupfer-Cent 1802, mit $\frac{1}{100}$ | Fonrobert 453. E¹⁻² (2 Ver.)
154. Silber-Dollar 1803. Brustbild & Adler. Fonrobert 458. E¹
155. Silber-Half-Dollar 1803. Brustbild & Adler. Fonrobert 460
156. Kupfer-Cent 1803. Fonrobert 464. E² & E²⁻³ (2 Ver.)
157. Kupfer-Cent 1803. Fonrobert 466. E²
158. Kupfer-Halfcent 1803. Fonrobert 468. E¹⁻²
159. Silber-Dollar 1804. Brustbild & Adler. E¹

Genau mit der Abbildung der im Jahre 1875 zu New-York versteigerten No. 535 der Collection übereinstimmend; Handschrift jedoch auf vorliegendem Exemplar nur schwach ausgeprägt.

160. Kupfer-Halfcent 1804. Fonrobert 471. E¹⁻² & E² (2 Ver.)
161. Kupfer-Halfcent 1804, mit CENT | Fonrobert 472. E¹ & E¹⁻² (2)
162. Silber-Dime 1805. Brustbild & Adler. Fonrobert 476. E¹
163. Silber-Half-Dollar 1806. Brustbild & Adler. E¹
164. Kupfer-Cent 1806. Fonrobert 486. E²
165. Kupfer-Halfcent 1806. Fonrobert 487. E²
166. S. Half-Dollar 1807. Brustbild rechts. Fonrobert 490. St.
167. Kupfer-Halfcent 1807. Fonrobert 496. E²⁻³
168. Fonrobert 501. E¹⁻²

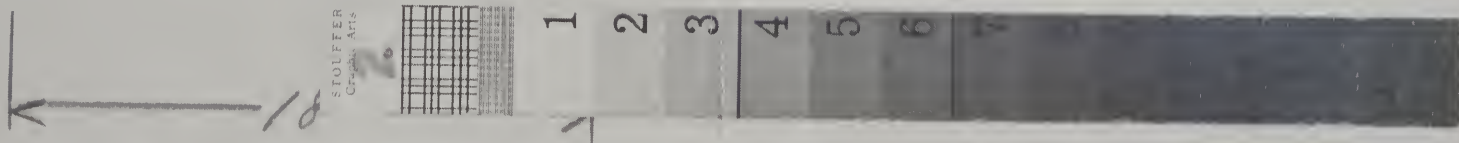


1804





120%



120%

REPLY MESSAGE

THIS FORM AVAILABLE FROM GRAYARC CO., 882 THIRD AVE., BROOKLYN 32, N. Y.

TO Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Missouri

FROM

JOHN J. FORD, JR.
 NUMISMATIST
 176 HENDRICKSON AVENUE
 ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N. Y.

SUBJECT: Your letter of August 12th re New Hampshire copper coin

DATE: Sept. 16, 1966

FOLD ↑

Dear Eric:

You might remember returning the New Hampshire copper piece to me in Chicago, together with the photos that I sent to you, and your letter to me dated August 12th.

In your letter concerning this coin, you stated that the piece was submitted to you in 1963 by Mr. Herbert M. Oechsner, of Montclair, New Jersey. You further stated, that a copy of your opinion, as given to Mr. Oechsner, was enclosed (with your letter). Apparently, you forgot to do this, and I would appreciate it very much if you would send a copy to me.

I noticed the book by Ruschenberger, no. 311 in the latest catalogue of Glen Dawson. The thought struck me, that this might make some mention of the 1834 Presentation sets. Have you ever looked at a copy? (I am enclosing Dawson's catalogue title page, and his description of Dr. Ruschenberger's book.)

Very best regards,

RETURN TO → SIGNED

[Signature]

DATE

SIGNED

SEND WHITE AND PINK COPIES WITH CARBONS INTACT. PINK COPY IS RETURNED WITH REPLY.

GRAYARC CO., BROOKLYN 32, N. Y.

September 20, 1966

Mr. John J. Ford, Jr.
176 Hendrickson Avenue
Rockville Centre
Long Island, New York

Dear John:

Thanks for your letter of September 16, 1966
as to the New Hampshire piece.

Late in August I sent you a photocopy of the
opinion rendered Mr. Oechsner but am glad to do it again
and enclose herewith another copy.

Mr. Washburn, of Copley Coin Company, apparently
showed you another piece recently and that has not been
shown to me as yet; however, a parking lot attendant
picked up another New Hampshire, in change, which was
recently sent to me, and which turned out to be a two-piece
joined lead and copper casting.

Thanks, also, for calling my attention to the
book about the 1834 Diplomatic Trade Journey. It so
happened that I had all of the official reports of that
trip on microfilm when I wrote "The Fantastic". There is
always, however, an opportunity of finding more data and
I will check thoroughly.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/s tb

ROGERS M. FRED, JR.
61 NORTH KING STREET
LEESBURG, VIRGINIA, 22075

Aug. 9, 1968

Mr. Eric P. Newman
P. O. Box 14026
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman,

I have been reading some of the back copies of The Numismatist and I ran across something which I thought would be of interest to you in case you had not noticed it. I can't remember if you mentioned this in your book on the 1804 dollar or in your other published pieces.

On page 198 of the March 1944 issue of The Numismatist is an article "False Rare Coins" by Farran Zerbe which is taken from a paper he read to the New York Numismatic Club on Jan. 14, 1944. Mr. Zerbe says that "this talk will

be on false rarities made for the collector". He mentions that he is displaying two "well altered 1804 dollars" at this meeting. Then he goes on to say "The notable false 'rarity' is the '1805' dollar. It was 'discovered' in Europe, noted as the only one known, and was cable news to the U.S. It is rarer than that; none is known. On show here".

Do you think that the 1804 and 1805 dollars that Mr. Zerbe exhibited are the Ostheimer coins?

Very truly,
Rogers Fred J.
A.N.A.
Regular 10805
Life 422

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

August 13, 1968

Mr. Rogers M. Fred, Jr.
61 North King Street
Leesburg, Virginia 22075

Dear Mr. Fred:

You certainly have pointed out something new in referring to Mr. Zerbe's talk. There was no way to find this in the indices and, as a matter of fact, I originally missed the October, 1939 and January, 1940 articles because they were indexed under 1904 instead of 1804.

It takes people like you to assemble all the data and your helpfulness is very much appreciated.

There is no question, in our opinion, that Mr. Zerbe was talking about the Ostheimer 1804 and 1805 dollars which are now in the stolen coins category.

The next time this subject comes up, if it ever does, your location of this additional material will be mentioned.

Please feel free to write at any time if you have anything new which needs consideration.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

Whitman Numismatic Journal

1220 MOUND AVENUE • RACINE, WISCONSIN 53404

October 25, 1968



R. S. YEOMAN
Editor-in Chief
K. E. BRESSETT
Managing Editor

NEIL SHAFER
HOLLAND WALLACE
Associate Editors

KAY ANDREASEN
Editorial Assistant

LINDA RUSCH
Advertising Mgr.

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric:

Just a short note to tell you that all is well here and business goes on as usual.

I do hope you can find the time to update the 1804 dollar series and work in some comments about Mr. Zerbe's talk with reference to the 1804-05 Ostheimer coins. This is indeed an important piece of news.

Kindest personal regards and best wishes.

Sincerely,

WHITMAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

Ken

Kenneth E. Bressett
Managing Editor

KEB:ca

ca

September 9, 1969

Mr. A. M. Trogner
350 E. Brown St.
E. Stroudsburg, Penna. 18301

Dear Mr. Trogner:

I was delighted to receive your letter of September 4, 1969 and am glad you are still working on the project with respect to the 1804 Dollar. Another project is under way with respect to determining, more accurately, when the dies for the 1804 Dollar might have been made and therefore I have my finger in that matter, also.

The problem to get Dr. Sarah Freeman's cooperation is one which I fully understand. First, there is the problem of the risk of loss. Second, she has been subjected to a number of inquiries in the past which were not bona fide and as a result has taken a very cautious attitude towards lending out the material over which she has custody. She might wish to obtain permission to withdraw as important a piece as this from the collection and therefore might wish to avoid that red tape.

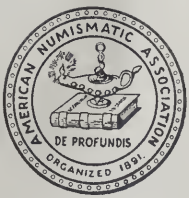
I do not know which one of the DuPont 1804 Dollars was recovered by the Florida police, but, perhaps there is an opportunity of cooperation from the law enforcement authorities in making a highly detailed picture of it. Perhaps the Smithsonian could be helpful in obtaining such a picture since it is a governmental matter. The DuPont family are so involved in the burglary that they are not in a position to look enthusiastically on this type of research.

You have a very difficult problem and I would like to keep it in mind so that when an opportunity arises to secure cooperation, I will be able to take advantage of it.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb



THE NUMISMATIST

Official Publication of
AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Edward C. Rochette
Editor

P. O. BOX 2366, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80901

March 6, 1970

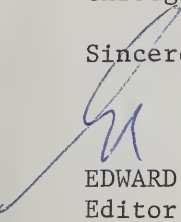
Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Missouri

Dear Eric:

Under separate cover we are forwarding to you the three extra copies of the March issue of The Numismatist and five sets of tear sheets. Also enclosed in that package is the negative and the positive print that we made from it and used for illustrative purposes in conjunction with your article.

I do want to thank you for your efforts on behalf of The Numismatist and I'm sure that the current series on the 1804 Dollar has contributed towards a great deal of publicity for the magazine, at least through Coin World.

Sincerely,



EDWARD C. ROCHETTE
Editor

ECR/jal



WESTERN PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.

WHITMAN DIVISION

December 12, 1969

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric:

I have studied the photos of the Weyl plate and compared it with Mehl's photo, the illustration in the Dunham catalog, and Lyman H. Low's sale of the H. G. Brown collection (October 11, 1904), where a halftone illustration appears on Plate 1.

I am quite certain that all of these illustrations are of the same coin. The most evident point of comparison is a small nick or dent that appears on the lower hair curl directly above the "1" in the date and about midway between truncation and top of gown. I believe I can see this on all of the illustrations. There are a few other dents and scratches common to some ^{or all} of the pictures, particularly a nick on the ribbon below "L" in PLURIBUS.

If these points satisfactorily establish that the illustrations are all of the same coin, then it is quite apparent that the Weyl plate was made from a plaster cast. It certainly has all of the characteristics of that and I believe we can safely ascribe the fine line *crack* characteristics to a faulty plaster mold.

Enclosed is a catalog with numerous similar illustrations. You will easily spot many examples of poor casts and poor colotype reproductions that have characteristics similar to those in the Weyl plate. Take particular note of illustrations numbers 585, 1041, 1111, and 1152.

I hope this helps your case. Be sure to holler if I can lend assistance in any other way.

Sincerely,

WESTERN PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.

Kenneth E. Bressett
Manager
Whitman Coin Supply Division

1220

MOUND AVENUE
KEB:ca
RACINE, WISCONSIN
ENC.

53404

CABLE: WESTPUB

TELEPHONE

(414) 633-2431

P.S. Enclosed is a photo for you of my latest discovery - the third known example of the now famous 6d struck over a shilling. I would be happy to sell or trade the piece if you have any interest in it.



AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Chartered by Congress

POST OFFICE BOX 2366, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80901

December 18, 1969

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis MO

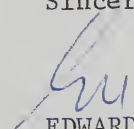
Dear Eric:

Thank you for the negative received from Vienna.
I will take this down in the morning and have
prints made from it.

It will most probably run two pictures, one
actual size and a very large blow-up.

Thanks again and I look forward to the "fur-
flying" article.

Sincerely,


EDWARD C. ROCHETTE
Editor

ECR/pm

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 16, 1970

Mr. Edward Rochette
American Numismatic Association
Box 2366
Colorado Springs, Colo. 80901

Dear Ed:

Enclosed is the article entitled "Keeping Up With 1804 Dollar History". I call your particular attention to the first line at the top of page 2. The last symbol requires a different size type or some way of showing the exponent.

Two suggested titles are enclosed relating to the illustrations to be used. Only the obverse of the Dunham Catalogue piece needs to be used.

Please be kind enough to send me ten extra copies of the February NUMISMATIST and ten extra copies of the March NUMISMATIST if you include the enclosed article.

Please return the photographic negative and a print or so of the Weyl catalogue picture.

If I can be helpful in any way, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

KEEPING UP WITH 1804 DOLLAR HISTORY

by Eric P. Newman

Although robbery, ~~and~~ ^{and undisclosed} burglary ^{ownership} have done more than their part to add romance to current 1804 Dollar history there is also some interesting earlier data which can be added to what is (1)
included in modern writing on the subject.

The Weyl Sale of the Dexter Dollar

The deviousness of S. H. and H. Chapman in the acquisition of the Dexter Class I 1804 Dollar can now be further documented. Edouard Frossard in 1884-5 charged that the 1804 Dollar sold at auction in Berlin on October 13, 1884 by Adolph Weyl to the Chapman brothers was not the same coin the Chapmans auctioned (2)
on May 14, 1885. Based upon this assertion a speculation was made that the Chapmans wished to develop a foreign source for the initial appearance of an unrecorded 1804 Dollar to give it a distant pedigree and thereby take the heat off the Philadelphia Mint officials and John W. Haseltine as surreptitious distributors of 1804 dollars. The idea that the Dexter 1804 Dollar never left Philadelphia and merely was used as a basis for a (3)
fictitious auction sale in Berlin was included as a possibility.

In the extensive research on the 1804 Dollar during the intervening period it was strange that no one examined the Adolph Weyl sale catalogue to support or refute Frossard's charges. There was good reason. The distribution of that catalogue must have been quite limited as it took a five-year search before I was fortunate enough to locate a copy in the Austrian National Numismatic Collection in Vienna. Through the cooperation of Dr. Bernhard Koch and Prof. Dr. Eduard Holzmair the following descriptive text and the illustration of Lot 159 of the October 13, 1884 sale conducted by Adolph Weyl in Berlin was obtained:

159 Silber - Dollar 1804 Brustbild & Adler. E¹
Genau mit der Abbildung der im Jahre 1875
zu New-York versteigerten No. 535 der Collection
Cohen ubereinstimmend; Randshrift jedoch
auf vorliegendem Exemplar nur schwach ausgepragt.

(translation)

159 Silver Dollar 1804. Bust and eagle. Unc.
Corresponding exactly with the illustration
of the one auctioned in 1875 in New York as
Lot 535 of the Cohen Collection; edge legend
however on the present specimen is only weakly
impressed.

Many differences can be noticed ^{when comparing} ~~between~~ the illustration
of the 1804 Dollar in the Weyl catalogue ^{with pictures of} ~~and~~ every known struck
piece including the Dexter specimen.

On the obverse ^{of the Weyl illustration} there can be seen:

1. ^{An apparent} ~~die~~ break between the front of the drapery
and the border beading.
2. ^{An apparent} ~~die~~ break between the 4 o'clock point of the
lowest left star and the nearest curl.
3. A horizontal protrusion on the right side above
the center of the upright of the I of LIBERTY.
4. Casting bubbles on the third lowest star on the
right side.

On the reverse ^{of the Weyl illustration} there can be seen:

1. A dented area above and to the right of the
central star in the second row.
2. The O ⁱⁿ ~~OF~~ and ^{the} ~~surrounding~~ area has scratches
and roughness.
3. The TE ⁱⁿ ~~UNITED~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ ^{is} ~~surrounded~~
with casting imperfections.
4. The central part of the outline of the left
side of the shield is missing.

- ?
5. ^{An apparent} ~~thin~~ die crack between the lower part of the claw on the right and the border below.
 6. A raised dot between E and R of AMERICA.
 7. A depressed ~~semicircle~~ at the base of the first A in AMERICA.

The inescapable conclusion is that the ^{Weyl} illustration is of a piece made by ^{using a} ~~the~~ casting process. This could include an electrotpe of the coin, a plaster cast of the coin, or a plaster cast made from an electrotpe of the coin. The photograph shows detail much too sharply for the piece to be a nineteenth century cast ^{metal} ~~for~~gery. The damaged areas, weak areas and casting bubbles are commonly found on both electrotypes and plaster casts. Die breaks do not appear on electrotypes unless they originally existed on the coin itself, but a study of some illustrations of plaster casts of coins shows that what appear to be die breaks could have occurred independently. In making plaster casts for photography in 1884 the coin or the foil separator was removed from a moist plaster negative. In the drying process the negative sometimes developed small cracks and when the plaster for the positive was applied to such a negative the positive would then have raised lines where the cracks in the negative were. These would appear exactly like die breaks. The picture in the Weyl catalogue is therefore of a plaster cast, and Frossard was correct in his observation of differences, but incorrect in his conclusion that it was not the same coin which the Chapmans auctioned in 1885. There are specific individual defects which show up both on the Weyl illustration and on the Dexter piece, an obvious one being the ^{dent} ~~crack~~ ~~of a diagonal~~ sloping down to the right on ^{the} ~~a~~ lock of hair touching the shoulder drapery and just above its center.

Analyzing the Weyl illustration further it can be realized that no electrotpe had been used for the photography. An electrotpe could not have had a lettered edge. Because the photograph of the edge shows the edge receding, the picture must have been

~~of~~ of the coin itself rather than ^{of} a plaster cast. A picture of a plaster impression of the edge would ^{have been} an impression on a flat surface.

Thus it appears that Frossard's ^{accusation} ~~change~~ was erroneous and that the 1804 Dollar ^{auctioned} was in Weyl's hands.

The fact that the edge was photographed and commented upon in the text of the catalogue ^{was, however,} an indication that some American numismatist ^{had} ~~was~~ assisted ^{ed} in the description and promotion of the coin. Other lots on the same page of the Weyl catalogue listed uncirculated early U.S. dollars which had identical lettered edges, but the lettered edges are not even mentioned in the ^{of these pieces.} one line descriptions. There was no apparent reason for Adolph Weyl to feature and discuss the edge unless he was ^{told} ~~asked~~ to do so. He certainly would not have been able to comment that the edge was weaker than the Cohen Class I piece auctioned in New York in 1875 because he would have had no way of ^{examining} ~~seeing~~ the Cohen coin and the edge was not ^{even} mentioned in the Cohen ^{sale} catalogue. ⁽⁴⁾ Weyl also stated ~~that~~ in his catalogue that his piece was exactly like the Cohen illustration ^{but the Cohen illustration} ~~which~~ was of the obverse only. Weyl ^{was auctioning} ~~had~~ a piece ~~far~~ far superior to the Cohen coin ^{in condition} and should have commented on its superiority rather than its minor inferiority.

It seems ^{clear from the foregoing} ~~therefore~~ that Weyl had American advice in preparing the text of his description and in selecting the edge for illustration. Whoever gave that advice must have seen the coin. Therefore the finger points to the Chapmans as having ^{been familiar with} ~~known~~ the coin before it was catalogued and having prepared ^{its} ~~the~~ description to assure its identification as a Class I piece. The edge was featured ^{in the Weyl description} because the ~~memory~~ ^{of the} recalled Class II restrikes with plain edges ^{in the 1859-60 period was} ~~was fresh~~ not forgotten by ~~in the minds of some American~~ ~~numismatists~~ numismatists.

The Weyl catalogue and the interpretation of its content seems to support the conclusion that the Chapmans sent the piece to Weyl to give it an apparent European origin and prearranged its "purchase" so that it could be resold in the United States. Auctioning American pieces for the first time in a foreign country is a practice which still continues in order to prevent potential buyers from ascertaining the true source of pieces auctioned.

Alterations and Fakes

The Zerbe 1804 and 1805 Dollar alterations were written up in detail in The Numismatist for October, 1961, but I was not then familiar with the opinion of Farran Zerbe with respect to them.

Zerbe himself in a talk about and exhibition of false rarities before the New York Numismatic Club in 1944 had them on display. He first pointed out that "the gem product of coin surgeons has been earlier dated dollars to place them in the high society class groomed like 1804s. The last figure in the date is successfully amputated and grafting of a 4 to replace the removed number is so clever you cannot tell the difference. The operation is quite a success." He then humorously remarked: "The notable false 'rarity' is the 1805 dollar. It was 'discovered' in Europe, noted as the only one known, and was cable news to the U.S. It is rarer than that; none is known." (5)

1804 and 1805
The Zerbe_A dollar alterations were stolen from Alfred J. Ostheimer's home in Honolulu on June 14, 1968, but were fortunately recovered with most of his superb collection of early U.S. Dollars.

(6)
The curious claims for the Spiers electrotpe of the 1804 dollar can be further amplified. Dr. Charles Spiers gave his collection in 1877 to the Society of California Pioneers which placed it in safe keeping and for study at the U.S. Mint in San Francisco. Case #28 contained "every coinage of the

silver dollar by our Government since 1794 to the present time" according to the extensive catalogue of the collection published in 1877. The 1804 dollar was described as the rarest and the five auction prices of 1804 dollars in the prior 16 years were listed. ^{A few days} ~~Only a day or so~~ before the San Francisco earthquake in 1906 Farran Zerbe examined the Spiers Dollar which was still at the ^{San Francisco} Mint and described it as ~~a~~ "a counterfeit of a fake". Continuing his invectives he pronounced the catalogue of the Spiers collection "a monument to numismatic (7) ignorance."

"The Keokuk 1804 Dollar" is the story of a wild goose chase by ^{Ted} Hammer. The dollar was allegedly found by a second-hand dealer in a stove bought from a junk dealer. The second-hand dealer was short of rent money and obtained a \$375 credit on his rent when he parted with his find. Its illustration shows it to be an ^{obvious} alteration. (8) Following this story a Columbus, Ohio collector reported he had located an 1803 (small 3) ^{dollar} altered into an 1804, but that to tell the difference it could be noticed that Liberty on the altered dollar had a frown while (9) Liberty on a true 1804 dollar was happy. Presumably the alteration operation caused ~~mal pain~~ ^{permanent injuries resulting in chronic pain.}

In 1964 there was an amusing incident about another 1804 alteration. A letter to the editor of The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine stated: "It is generally unknown that a genuine 1804 dollar is in the collection of Frank R. Liveright" in the Newark Museum. A reply to that statement indicated that the letter writer in one sense was correct; that such a situation will continue to remain generally unknown because the coin (10) is a skillful alteration.

Commentary in Earlier Coin Catalogues

The remarks as to the 1804 Dollar ^{from the 1893} ~~in late 19th century~~ ^{through the 1916}
~~and all 20th century~~ ^{those} editions of Scott's Standard Catalogues ~~covering~~
~~ing silver and gold~~ coins are of interest:

"1804 The dies for this coin are known to have existed and from them it is believed about 20 impressions have been taken, but we do not think that any were struck in the year the coins are dated, hence we class them as restrikes. The dies were destroyed in 1869."

This statement indicates that the editor of those publications believed that the dies for the 1804 dollar were made in 1804 but were not used until much later. He therefore felt that all of the pieces were restrikes. While this belief was in error the conclusion that there were no 1804 dollars struck in 1804 was nevertheless sound.

David Proskey in publishing a catalogue for the New York Coin & Stamp Co. in 1889 did not illustrate the 1804 dollar and merely commented "No authentic originals known". By 1894 he put in an illustration of the piece and described all 1804 dollars as restrikes but continued his opinion that "No authentic ORIGINALS are known." Therefore he, too, felt then that the dies were made in 1804. He became enlightened in due course and ~~included~~ ^{included} in an advertisement in 1927 ⁽¹¹⁾ his revised opinion that the "die was not cut until 1835".

Wayte Raymond up to 1944 listed, without comment, the two reverse varieties of the 1804 dollar in his Standard Catalogues. Then he included:

"1804. The first dollar of this date was acquired from the mint about 1845. The dies being extant several others were struck between that time and 1878. The later strikes are from the second die. Of those struck from the first die only six are known".

This commentary did not denote any antedating or any background for the Class I pieces and was withdrawn in the 1950 edition. The Class II and Class III restrikes were described in a separate section on restrikes beginning in 1951. In the 1953 edition the Class I pieces are "tentatively listed with the regular series" and the information is substantially expanded so as to include the statement, "The present dollars known with the date 1804 could not have been made before November, 1836, as these bear clear evidence of having been made with either a steam or a hydraulic press and a 'close collar' which squashed the edge lettering practically to invisibility. * * * The beaded border on these was introduced in 1828. * * * All of which adds up to the conclusion that they were made between 1836 and 1842, and probably in or after 1838 - for trading purposes, to augment the newly formed Mint Cabinet". This commentary continued until the final edition of the Standard Catalogue in 1957. It showed that ^{logical assumptions} ~~logic~~ instead of fiction could be openly ^{stated} ~~expressed~~ even if some ~~minor~~ ^{assertions and} erroneous conclusions had been ^{included.} ~~reached.~~

The first publication of A Guide Book of United States Coins (Racine, 1946) carried a statement showing the divided opinion regarding the origin, date of issue and authenticity of the 1804 dollar and giving many of the arguments pro and con. The beaded edge segments and raised borders were shown to conform more to 1836-1842 coinage than to 1803 or prior coinage. There was virtually no change in the text until 1962 when the Siam set was revealed and The Fantastic 1804 Dollar was published. Since Kenneth E. Bressett was one of the authors of the latter and also the coordinating editor of the Guide Book, the fact of antedating was then conclusively presented.

Comedy of Errors

A comical blooper ^{as} to the 1804 dollar occurred in (12)
a published article entititled "The Mint Manual" by E. Oelsner.
In that article the alleged Oelsner claims for himself parti-
cipation in the research and the publication of "The Fantastic
1804 Dollar". I had never heard of any such participant and
felt that an inquiry was in order. I was surprised to learn
that a nom de plume was used for that article. Someone just
forgot to change the text so that Lynn Glaser's concealed ^{authorship of the} ~~identity~~
~~article would not have been~~
~~would not be~~ so obvious.

Another ^{assortment of numismatic} ~~pile up of~~ errors resulted from the October ⁴ 1967 robbery and burglary at the ^{Florida} home of Mr. and Mrs. Willis du Pont when either the Cohen Class I 1804 Dollar or the Linderman Class III 1804 Dollar or both were taken. For some reason a numismatic newspaper reported that it was the Stickney Class I piece (13)
which had been stolen. Subsequently after a few of the other coins taken in the theft had been ransomed, the Florida police learned that an 1804 dollar was available and set an elaborate trap for its "purchase". The scheme was skillfully carried out, resulting in the arrest of the possessor. The recovered coin turned out to be an altered date 1804 dollar and ^{not} ~~neither~~ one (14)
of the du Pont pieces.

The Diplomatic Front

Some additional contemporary commentary on the gift of presentation sets of U.S. coins to the Imaum of Muscat has been located. In 1838 W.S.W. Ruschenberger published A Voyage Round the World including an Embassy to Muscat and Siam in 1835, 1836 and 1837. He was a surgeon in the U.S. Navy and sailed on the U.S. ship Peacock with Edmund Roberts, the special agent of the United States, and on the U.S. Schooner Enterprise. He mentioned the gifts in the following passage relating to Muscat:

"In conformity with this usage, a variety of articles was presented to the Sultan by the United States, amongst which were a sword and altagan, with gold scabbards, and mountings, Tanner's Map of the United States, an American flag, a set of American coins, several rifles, a number of cut glass lamps, a quantity of American nankin, known as Forsyth's nankin, etc." ~~(p.91)~~ (p.91)

The references in the same book to the gifts for the King of Siam, ~~(p.273xxxxxx283)~~ do not specifically mention the coins:

"Immediately after the feast was cleared away, the governor demanded a list of the presents intended for his Magnificent Majesty, but it was refused." (p.273)

"In front of the mission were displayed part of the presents brought by Mr. Roberts, the whole being too bulky for such a pageant." (p.333).

FINIS

Who knows, perhaps even an 1804 Dollar of presently undisclosed ownership soon will reappear for auction just to stimulate further discussion about its unusual birth and family background.

Information furnished for this article by Kenneth E. Bressett, John J. Ford, Jr., Rogers M. Fred, Jr., and Henry Grunthal is gratefully acknowledged. The English translation of the German in the Weyl catalogue and the correspondence to obtain it was a kindness of Carol Langreder and Sue Sale of St. Louis.

Suggested title for the Weyl Catalogue picture is:

The photograph of the plaster cast used for the illustration in the Weyl Catalogue showing unknown "die breaks" but identifiable as taken from the Dexter specimen by the diagonal dent on the lock of hair adjacent to the shoulder drapery.

Suggested title for Dunham Catalogue picture:

A diagonal dent on the lock of hair adjacent to the shoulder drapery identifies the Dexter Class I 1804 Dollar.

January 19, 1970

Mr. Edw. Rochette

Dear Ed,

Please substitute this for
page 11 in the draft recently
sent to you.

From the desk of
ERIC P. NEWMAN

Footnotes

1. Eric P. Newman and Kenneth E. Bressett, The Fantastic 1804 Dollar (Racine, 1962); Eric P. Newman "Updating the Fantastic 1804 Dollar", Whitman's Monthly Journal (September, 1964); James C. Risk "Further Thoughts about the 1804 Class I Dollar and Proof Eagle", The Numismatist (November, 1969); Robert W. Julian, ^{"Another Look at the 1804"} (Origin of the 1804 Dollar), The Numismatist (January, 1970); Eric P. Newman and Don Taxay, "An Answer to 1804 Dollar and Eagle Challenges" The Numismatist (February, 1970).
2. The Fantastic 1804 Dollar, p. 91
3. Ibid, p. 92
4. Ibid, p. 120
5. Farran Zerbe, "False Rare Coins", The Numismatist, (March, 1944), pp. 199, 200.
6. The Fantastic 1804 Dollar, p. 106
7. Oscar H. Dodson "The Legendary Farran Zerbe", The Numismatist, (Sept. 1969), p. 1198; "America's Pioneer Coin Collector" COINage (March, 1968), p. 22.
8. Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine (December, 1937), p. 277
9. Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine (January, 1938), p. 6
10. Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine (October, 1964), p. 2678; (November, 1964), p. 2983; Whitman Numismatic Journal, (September, 1964).
11. The Numismatist (November, 1927), p. 703
12. Whitman Numismatic Journal (February, 1966)
13. Coin World, Oct. 5, 1967
14. Coin World, Sept. 3, 1969 and Nov. 5, 1969